

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-48. (Cancelled)

49. (New) A method for maintaining state between a client and a server, said server being in communication with a database, comprising:

generating a user identification (ID) that identifies said client and is based on a location value;

transmitting said user ID to said server in a first communication with said server;

storing said user ID in said database as a state variable, said state variable corresponding to a first user session;

transmitting ID information to said server in a second communication with said server; and

comparing said ID information with said state variable to determine whether said second communication is part of said first user session or the beginning of a new user session.

50. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a location value that corresponds to the location of the client.

51. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a location value that includes a latitude and longitude dimension.

52. (New) The method of Claim 51, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a location value that further includes an altitude dimension.

53. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a temporal value.

54. (New) The method of Claim 53, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a temporal value that corresponds to the creation of said user ID.

55. (New) The method of Claim 53, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said user ID based on a temporal value that corresponds to the invocation of an Internet browser session.

56. (New) The method of Claim 49, further comprising the step of deriving an anonymous user ID from said user ID.

57. (New) The method of Claim 56, wherein said deriving step further comprises mathematically encoding said user ID into said anonymous user ID.

58. (New) An apparatus for maintaining state between a client and a server, comprising:

a database for storing a user identification (ID) as a state variable,

said state variable corresponding to a first user session; and

a server in communication with said database and adapted to:

receive a first communication from said client that includes said user ID, said user ID being derived from location data and used to identify said client;

store said user ID in said database as said state variable;

receive a second communication from said client that includes ID information; and

compare said ID information with said state variable to determine whether said second communication is part of said first user session or the beginning of a new user session.

59. (New) The apparatus of Claim 58, wherein user ID is derived from location data that corresponds to the location of the client.

60. (New) The apparatus of Claim 59, wherein said user ID is derived from location data that includes a latitude and longitude dimension.

61. (New) The apparatus of Claim 59, wherein said user ID is derived from location data that includes a latitude, longitude and altitude dimension.

62. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein said user ID is further derived from temporal data.

63. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein said user ID is further derived from temporal data that corresponds to the creation of said user ID.

64. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein said user ID is further derived from temporal data that corresponds to the invocation of an Internet browser session.

65. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein said user ID is mathematically encoded prior to said user ID being included in said first communication and sent to said server.

66. (New) An apparatus for facilitating interaction between a user and a web application on a remote server, comprising:

- a GPS receiver adapted to generate location data corresponding to said user's geographic location;

- a memory; and

- a processor electrically connected to said memory and adapted to:

- generate a user identification (ID) from said location data, said user ID corresponding to a first user session between said user and said web application;

- store said user ID in said memory;

- transmit a request to said server;

- include said user ID in said request if said request is part of said first user session; and

- generate a new user ID and include said new user ID in said request if said request is part of a new user session.

67. (New) The apparatus of Claim 66, further comprising a web-browser application, wherein said processor is further adapted to delete said user ID from said memory when said web-browser application is closed.

68. (New) The apparatus of Claim 66, wherein said processor is further adapted to store said new user ID in said memory if said request is part of a new user session.

69. (New) The apparatus of Claim 68, wherein said processor is further adapted to replace said user ID in said memory with said new user ID if said request is part of a new user session.

70. (New) A method for communicating between a client and a server, comprising:

- generating a user ID that identifies said client and is based on at least location data that corresponds to a location of said client;

- incorporating said user ID into a communication;

- sending said communication to said server;

- comparing said user ID to information stored in a database, said database being in communication with and accessible by said server;

- identifying said communication as part of a previous session if there is coincidence between said user ID and information stored in said database; and

- identifying said communication as part of a new session if there is no coincidence between said user ID and information stored in said database.

71. (New) The method of Claim 70, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from location data that includes a latitude and longitude dimension.

72. (New) The method of Claim 71, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from location data that further includes an altitude dimension.

73. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from temporal data.

74. (New) The method of Claim 73, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from temporal data that corresponds to a time the user ID was generated.

75. (New) The method of Claim 73, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from temporal data that corresponds to a time said previous session was initiated.

76. (New) The method of Claim 70, wherein said step of generating a user ID further comprises generating said user ID from location data acquired from a GPS receiver.

77. (New) The method of Claim 70, further comprising deleting said user ID upon completion of said previous session.

78. (New) The method of Claim 70, further comprising maintaining at least a portion of said user ID upon completion of said previous session.

79. (New) The method of Claim 70, wherein said step of incorporating said user ID into a communication further comprising incorporating said user ID into a cookie file and incorporating said cookie file into said communication.